

Revised Claims

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1. Depositing a biofilm;  
2. Feeding and attack by microbes of bacteria origin;

3. Feeding and attack by yeast;  
and said antimicrobial activity is provided by inhibiting or interfering with at least one of said steps.

17. A voice prosthesis for use in contact with tissue comprising in combination:

a tubular body having a central channel and an annular wall having an inside surface not in contact with tissue and an outside surface in contact with tissue and containing antimicrobial material at a level that is non-irritating and non-toxic to tissue;

5 a valve having an inside surface and an outside surface and being mounted to seal and intermittently open said channel, said outside surface of the valve being in contact with body fluids; and

10 the outside surface of the valve not being in direct contact with tissue and having antimicrobial properties at a level that would irritate or be toxic to that tissue.

18. A voice prosthesis according to claim 17 in which the outside surface of the wall is in contact with tissue and the outside surface of the wall is non-irritating to and non-toxic to said tissue.

19. A voice prosthesis according to claim 18 in which said body and said valve are formed of an elastomer.

20. A voice prosthesis according to claim 19 in which the valve is formed of a silicone elastomer containing a dispersion or outside coating of an antimicrobial material.

21. A voice prosthesis according to claim 20 in which

the antimicrobial material is selected from metal salts, metal oxides and organic antimicrobial materials.

a 22. A voice prosthesis according to claim 21 in which the material is selected from silver oxide in an amount from 6 to at least 50 phr and butyl paraben or triclosan in an amount from 0.2 to 5% by weight dispersed in the resin forming the valve.

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